

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1-19 are pending in the application. Claims 5, 12, and 15 have been amended to more properly define preexisting claim limitations. The amended claims are supported by the specification. No new matter has been added.

As a preliminary matter the Office Action has rejected claims 6 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller in view of Kirk et al. U.S. Patent 5,768,578 (“Kirk”). The reasoning given by the Office Action for the rejection has led the applicants to believe the claims that the Examiner intended to reject are claims 4 and 14. The applicants in order to make a response as best as possible in an attempt to advance prosecution of this case have addressed remarks concerning claims 4 and 14 with respect to the cited reference Kirk. Also, the applicants have addressed remarks concerning claims 6 and 16 with respect to the cited reference Newman. If the Examiner believes this assumption to be incorrect, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide an analysis with respect to claims 6 and 16 and the cited reference Kirk by identifying, next to each claim limitation of claims 6 and 16, the column and line numbers from Kirk where the Examiner believes the claim language reads on the cited reference. Similarly, the applicants submit the same be done regarding claims 4 and 14 with respect to the cited reference of Newman.

Claims 1-19 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of Application No. 09/826,220. Applicants note that claims 1-19 have been provisionally rejected for obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-20 of co-pending Application No. 09/826,219, and at such time that such a rejection no longer is provisional, Applicant will take steps to overcome the rejection.

The drawings have been objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: Note reference characters 400 and 480 in figure 4, 600 and 670 in Figure 5, 820 in Figure 8, 1430 in Figure 14B and 1715 and 1721 in Figure 17. Applicants respectfully submit that the changes made to the specification overcome the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5), and request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn. No new matter has been added to the specification.

Claims 1, 7-11, and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Miller et al. U.S. Patent 5,550,968 ("Miller"). Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference. Claim 1 recites:

A method comprising:

providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI;

in response to a request for a destination page of the GUI and with reference to the prerequisite information, identifying one or more page sub-component prerequisites of page sub-components associated with the destination page;

determining whether one or more requirements of an instance of an identified page sub-component prerequisite have been satisfied by invoking a method of the instance that causes stored information regarding the state of the page sub-component prerequisite to be retrieved from a current environment/context; and

causing the destination page to be displayed with (1) content associated with the identified page sub-component prerequisite if any of its one or more requirements have not been satisfied and (2) content associated with those of the page sub-components having no page sub-component prerequisites or having page sub-component prerequisites whose requirements have all been satisfied.

(emphasis added)

The Office Action states in pertinent part:

Referring to claims 1, 10, 11 and 19, Miller et al. teach a method, system and machine readable medium for **providing information regarding pages of a graphical user interface (GUI) (column 2, lines 9-11) that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI.**

(Office Action, 11/21/03, page 4)(emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's characterization of Miller. The Office Action purports that Miller discloses providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI. Applicants submit that Miller does not disclose providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI.

Miller discloses a “system for providing security for individual controls within a window of a GUI.” (See Miller, col. 2, lines 9-11). Providing security is accomplished by limiting access to information in the controls of windows by obscuring the view to users by an obscuring member. (See Miller, col. 2, lines 32-43). The control of windows includes the obscured information requested by the user. This shows that the method of Miller **provides security of obscured information** (the information requested by the user) in the controls of windows and **does not provide prerequisite information regarding page sub-components that are prerequisite pages to other page sub-components** of the GUI.

In contrast, claim 1 recites “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI.” Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Miller discloses “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” as recited in claim 1. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited reference.

Given that claims 7-9 depend from claim 1, applicants submit that claims 7-9 are patentable over the cited reference.

Applicants submit that claim 10 is patentable over the cited reference. Claim 10 recites:

A method of presenting a page requested by a user comprising:

in response to a request for a destination page of a graphical user interface (GUI),
creating an instance of a container to represent the destination page, the container including a list of sub-components to render;

identifying one or more sub-components associated with the destination page;
for each of the one or more sub-components

determining whether the sub-component has any page sub-component prerequisites with reference to a set of prerequisite information, the set of prerequisite information including information regarding sub-components of the GUI that are prerequisites to other sub-components of the GUI, and

if the sub-component has a page sub-component prerequisite and if one or more requirements of the page sub-component prerequisite remains unsatisfied, then adding an instance of the page sub-component prerequisite to the list of sub-components associated with the container, otherwise adding an instance of the sub-component to the list of sub-components; and

causing the destination page to be displayed by rendering the output of the instances on the list of sub-components, whereby page sub-component prerequisites that have one or more requirements that remain unsatisfied are displayed in place of the corresponding sub-components

(emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's assertions and characterization of Miller. Applicants wish to remind the Examiner that claim 10 and claim 1 are each independent claims having different claim limitations. As such, the claim 10 analysis provided by the Office Action referring to claim 1 is inapposite. Applicants respectfully submit that the reasoning provided in the Office Action with respect to claim 10 is not a cogent attempt to read Miller onto an independent claim of an application. As it is unclear how the Examiner believes all the limitations of claim 10 are disclosed in Miller, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide an analysis with respect to claim 10 and the cited reference by identifying, next to each claim limitation of claim 10, the column and line numbers from the cited reference where the Examiner believes the claim language reads on the cited reference. Although, applicants believe that the Examiner has not met his burden in this matter, applicants are herewith making a response as best as possible in an attempt to advance prosecution of this case.

Miller discloses a “system for providing security for individual controls within a window of a GUI.” (See Miller, col. 2, lines 9-11). Providing security is accomplished by limiting access to information in the controls of windows by obscuring the view to users by an obscuring member. (See Miller, col. 2, lines 32-43). Nothing in Miller however, discloses “creating an instance of a container to represent the destination page, the container including a list of sub-components to render,” and/or “determining whether the sub-component has any page sub-component prerequisites with reference to a set of prerequisite information, the set of prerequisite information including information regarding sub-components of the GUI that are prerequisites to other sub-components of the GUI,” as recited in claim 10. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 10 is patentable over the cited reference.

Applicants submit that claim 11 is patentable over the cited reference. Claim 11 recites:

A graphical user interface (GUI) system for enforcing page sub-component prerequisites comprising:

a properties data store including information regarding page sub-components of the GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI;

a base agent to respond to requests for a destination page of the GUI, in response to a request for the destination page, the base agent creating an instance of a container to represent the destination page and initiating display of the destination page after a list of page sub-components of the container has been populated; and

a sub-component prerequisite factory decoupling the page sub-components from their respective page sub-component prerequisites, the sub-component prerequisite factory to either (1) cause an instance of an identified page sub-component prerequisite to be added to the list of page sub-components if it determines that one or more requirements of the identified page sub-component prerequisite are unsatisfied or (2) cause an instance of the page sub-component to be added to the list of page sub-components, whereby page sub-component prerequisites that have one or more unsatisfied requirements are displayed in place of the corresponding page sub-components.

(emphasis added)

Again, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide an analysis with respect to claim 11 and the cited reference by identifying, next to each claim limitation of claim 11, the

column and line numbers from the cited reference where the Examiner believes the claim language reads on the cited reference. Although it is not clear how the Examiner believes the claim language reads on the cited references, applicants believe that the Examiner has not met his burden in this regard, and applicants are herewith making a response as best as possible in an attempt to advance prosecution of this case.

Similarly to the discussions above with regard to claims 1 and 10, nothing in Miller however, discloses “a properties data store including information regarding page sub-components of the GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” as recited in claim 11. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 11 is patentable over the cited reference.

Given that claims 12-18 depend from claim 11, applicants submit that claims 12-18 are patentable over the cited reference.

Applicants submit that claim 19 is patentable over the cited reference. Claim 19 recites:

A machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions, the sequences of instruction which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

identify one or more page sub-component prerequisites of page sub-components associated with a destination page of a graphical user interface (GUI) in response to a request for the destination page and with reference to the prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of the GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI;

determine whether one or more requirements of an instance of an identified page sub-component prerequisite have been satisfied by invoking a method of the instance that causes stored information regarding the state of the page sub-component prerequisite to be retrieved from a current environment/context; and

cause the destination page to be displayed with (1) content associated with the identified page sub-component prerequisite if any of its one or more requirements have not been satisfied and (2) content associated with those of the page sub-components having no page sub-component prerequisites or having page sub-component prerequisites whose requirements have all been satisfied.

(emphasis added)

Again, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide an analysis with respect to claim 19 and the cited reference by identifying, next to each claim limitation of claim 19, the

column and line numbers from the cited reference where the Examiner believes the claim language reads on the cited reference. Although it is not clear how the Examiner believes the claim language reads on the cited references, applicants are herewith making a response as best as possible in an attempt to advance prosecution of this case.

Similarly to the discussions above with regard to claims 1 and 10, nothing in Miller discloses “identify one or more page sub-component prerequisites of page sub-components associated with a destination page of a graphical user interface (GUI) in response to a request for the destination page and with reference to the prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of the GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” as recited in claim 19. Therefore, applicants submit that claim 19 is patentable over the cited reference.

Claims 2 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller, as applied to claims 1 and 10 above, and further in view of Feldman U.S. Patent 6,154,741 (“Feldman”). Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 is patentable over the cited references. Given that claim 2 depends from claim 1, claim 2 includes all limitations of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Feldman do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicants respectfully submit that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on applicants’ own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Feldman. The Office Action states “[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Feldman before him at the time of the invention was made, to modify the GUI of Miller et al. to include the Java files taught by Feldman[,]” and “one would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to give users versatility in being able to implement the access control interface with various different software languages.”

(Office Action, 11/21/03, page 6). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of implementing the access control interface with various different software languages, without explaining the teaching in Miller that would suggest such a combination with Feldman.

Even if Miller and Feldman were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 2.

The Office Action states in pertinent part:

Referring to claims 2 and 22, while Miller et al teach **all of the limitations as applied to the claims above**, they fail to teach storing the information in a Java file. Feldman teaches an access control system and method similar to that of Miller et al. In addition, he further teaches controlling access to pages (information) through the **use of prerequisite information** (unique identifier) (Column 2, lines 47-63) **via Java files** as recited in column 13, lines 19-21.

(Office Action, 11/21/03, page 5-6)(emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's characterization of Miller. The Office Action purports that Miller teaches providing prerequisite information regarding pages of a GUI that are prerequisites to other pages of the GUI. As set forth above, Applicants submit that Miller does not teach providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI. The method of Miller **provides security of obscured information** (the information requested by the user) in the controls of windows and **does not provide prerequisite information regarding page sub-components that are prerequisite pages to other page sub-components** of the GUI.

In contrast, claim 2 recites "providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI." Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Miller teaches "providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface

(GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and/or “wherein the prerequisite information is stored in a Java properties file,” as recited in claim 2.

Feldman teaches managing a user’s access utilizing “entitlement expressions that refer to membership maps and unique assessor identification indices into the membership maps to determine the user’s entitlement to a resource.” (See Feldman, col. 1, lines 19-23). “The method includes associating an entitlement expression with the resource,” that is requested from the accessor. (See Feldman, col. 2, lines 50-53). The resources of Feldman that are addressed over the Internet include software application programs, such as the Common Gateway Interface (CGI). (See Feldman, col. 13, lines 13-17). The “CGI may be written in any programming language that may be executing on [a] computer”, such as “C/C++, Fortran, PERL, TCL, any Unix shell, Visual Basic or Java”. (See Feldman, col. 13, lines 17-21). **This shows that programming language of Java may be used to program the CGI, which is one type of resource that can be requested by the accessor.** The cited reference, however, does not teach controlling access to pages through the use of prerequisite information via Java files, as purported by the Office Action. Nothing in Feldman is directed towards providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI and storing prerequisite information in a Java properties file. As such, Feldman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Feldman does not teach the limitations of claim 2.

Nothing in Miller and Feldman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and/or “wherein the prerequisite information is stored in a Java properties file,” as recited in claim 2. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 12, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 2, which recites “a properties data store including information regarding page sub-components of the GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and “wherein the properties data store is a Java properties file.” Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 12 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 3-5, 13-15 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller, as applied to claims 1 and 10 above, and further in view of Newman et al. U.S. Patent 5,983,245 (“Newman”). Applicants respectfully submit that claim 3 is patentable over the cited references. Given that claim 3 depends from claim 1, claim 3 includes all limitations of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Newman do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicants respectfully submit that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on applicants’ own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Newman. The Office Action states “[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Newman before him at the time of the invention was made, to modify the GUI taught by Miller et al. to include the hierarchical relationships of Newman[,]” and “one would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to provide a higher level of security for the database’s information.” (Office Action, 11/21/03, page 6-7). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of implementing supporting hierarchical relationships, without explaining the teaching in Miller that would suggest such a combination with Newman.

Even if Miller and Newman were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 3.

The Office Action states in pertinent part:

Referring to claims 3 and 13, while Miller et al **teach all of the limitations as applied to the claims above**, they fail to teach support for hierarchical relationships of prerequisite pages. Newman et al. teach a graphical user interface similar to that of Miller et al. In addition, Newman et al. **teach a method and system for generating universal resource locator (URL) menus containing hierarchical relationships for the HTML files they contain** (column 2, lines 60-62). As can be seen from Figure 1, the method iterates through the identified pages in a predetermined order (file1.html homepages, file2.html, file3.html, etc.) wherein the second page is dependent upon the first page and so on.

(Office Action, 11/21/03, page 6)(emphasis added).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's characterization of Miller. As discussed above, Applicants submit that Miller does not teach providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI. More specifically, claim 3 recites **"providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI."** Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Miller teaches "providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI," and/or "supporting hierarchical relationships of page sub-component prerequisites," as recited in claim 3.

Newman teaches a method and apparatus for implementing universal resource locator nested menus. (See Newman, Abstract and Title). "The nested menu contains a list of most recently used [URLs], and a list of open HTML files." (See Newman, col. 2, lines 62-64). Figure 1 illustrates various HTML files that may be linked to one another through the use of URL links[,] and may also link to selected portions of an HTML file by linking to an 'anchor[.]'" (See Newman col. 1, lines 64-67; and col. 2, line 1). **Figure 1 of Newman does not teach a method that iterates through the identified pages in a predetermined order, as purported by the Office Action.** Nothing in Newman is directed towards providing prerequisite information

regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI and supporting hierarchical relationships of page sub-component prerequisites by iterating through each of the identified page sub-component prerequisites for a particular page sub-component associated with the destination page in a predetermined order until encountering the first page sub-component prerequisite that has one or more unsatisfied requirements. As such, Newman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Newman does not teach the limitations of claim 3.

Nothing in Miller and Newman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and/or “supporting hierarchical relationships of page sub-component prerequisites by iterating through each of the identified page sub-component prerequisites for a particular page sub-component associated with the destination page in a predetermined order until encountering the first page sub-component prerequisite that has one or more unsatisfied requirements,” as recited in claim 3. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claim 3 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 13, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 3, which recites “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and/or “supporting hierarchical relationships of page sub-component prerequisites by iterating through each of the identified page sub-component prerequisites for a particular page sub-component associated with the destination page in a predetermined order until encountering the first page sub-component prerequisite that has one or more unsatisfied requirements.” Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 13 is patentable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 4 is patentable over the cited references. Given that claim 4 depends from claim 1, claim 4 includes all limitations of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Newman do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicants respectfully submit that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on applicants' own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Newman. The Office Action states “[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Newman before him at the time of the invention was made, to modify the GUI taught by Miller et al. to include the prerequisite string of Newman et al.[,] and one would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to allow users to view all of the prerequisite pages for a particular page of the GUI.” (Office Action, 11/21/03, page 7-8). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of allow users to view all of the prerequisite pages for a particular page of the GUI, without explaining the teaching in Miller that would suggest such a combination with Newman.

Even if Miller and Newman were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 4.

In contrast, claim 4 recites “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and “wherein each page sub-component has a prerequisite property and the prerequisite information includes, for each page sub-component that has one or more page sub-component prerequisites, a string identifying the one or more page sub-component prerequisites.” Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Miller teaches “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and/or “wherein each page sub-

component has a prerequisite property and the prerequisite information includes, for each page sub-component that has one or more page sub-component prerequisites, a string identifying the one or more page sub-component prerequisites,” as recited in claim 4.

Additionally, the applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action’s characterization of Newman. Newman teaches a method and apparatus for implementing universal resource locator nested menus. (See Newman, Abstract and Title). “The nested menu contains a list of most recently used [URLs], and a list of open HTML files.” (See Newman, col. 2, lines 62-64). **The URLs illustrated in col. 2, lines 35-43 and 51-58 are merely part of a menu including the list of most recently used URLs and are not prerequisite pages of a string.** Further, nothing in Newman is directed towards providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI, and each page sub-component having a prerequisite property and the prerequisite information including a string identifying the one or more page sub-component prerequisites. As such, Newman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Newman does not teach the limitations of claim 4.

Nothing in Miller and Newman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and “wherein each page sub-component has a prerequisite property and the prerequisite information includes, for each page sub-component that has one or more page sub-component prerequisites, a string identifying the one or more page sub-component prerequisites,” as recited in claim 4. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claim 4 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 14, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 4, which recites “providing prerequisite

information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and “wherein each page sub-component has a prerequisite property and the prerequisite information includes, for each page sub-component that has one or more page sub-component prerequisites, a string identifying the one or more page sub-component prerequisites.” Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 14 is patentable over the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 is patentable over the cited references. Given that claim 6 depends from claim 1, claim 6 includes all limitations of claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Newman do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicants respectfully submit that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on applicants’ own disclosure to combine the cited references.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Newman. The Office Action states “[i]t would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Miller et al. and Newman before him at the time of the invention was made, to modify the GUI taught by Miller et al. to include the web pages of Newman[,] ... because the Internet is growing at such a fast rate and this would allow the security controls of sensitive information to apply to information transmitted via web pages on the Internet.” (Office Action, 11/21/03, page 7). Here, the Office Action merely states an advantage of implementing the method with web pages, without explaining the teaching of Miller that would suggest such a combination.

Even if Miller and Newman were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 6.

Claim 6 recites “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,”

and “wherein the request for the destination page comprises a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request, and wherein the page sub-components of the GUI are associated with web pages.” Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Miller teaches “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and “wherein the request for the destination page comprises a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request, and wherein the page sub-components of the GUI are associated with web pages,” as recited in claim 6.

Newman teaches a method and apparatus for implementing universal resource locator nested menus. (See Newman, Abstract and Title). “The nested menu contains a list of most recently used [URLs], and a list of open HTML files.” (See Newman, col. 2, lines 62-64). Nothing in Newman is directed towards providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI and/or wherein the request for the destination page comprises a HTTP request, and wherein the page sub-components of the GUI are associated with web pages. As such, Newman does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Newman does not teach the limitations of claim 6.

Nothing in Miller and Newman, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and/or “wherein the request for the destination page comprises a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request, and wherein the page sub-components of the GUI are associated with web pages,” as recited in claim 6. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 16, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 6, which recites “providing prerequisite

information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and “wherein the request for the destination page comprises a HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) request, and wherein the page sub-components of the GUI are associated with web pages.” Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 16 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 5 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller, as applied to claims 1, and further in view of Kirk. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5 is patentable over the cited references.

It is respectfully submitted that Miller and Kirk do not teach or suggest a combination with each other. Applicant respectfully submits that it would be impermissible hindsight, based on Applicant’s own disclosure to combine the cited references. Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine Miller and Kirk.

Even if Miller and Kirk were combined, the combination would still not result in the limitations of claim 5.

Applicant submits that Miller does not teach providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI.

Additionally, Applicant submits that nothing in Miller teaches the limitation of claim 5 that recites “prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute-value pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first sub-component, sub₁, and a second sub-component, sub₂, as prerequisites of a third sub-component, sub₃, is substantially as follows: sub₃.prereq = sub₁ sub₂.”

Claim 5 recites “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and “prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute-value pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first sub-component, sub₁, and a second sub-component, sub₂, as prerequisites of

a third sub-component, sub₃, is substantially as follows: sub₃.prereq = sub₁ sub₂.” Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in Miller teaches “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a graphical user interface (GUI) that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and/or “prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute-value pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first sub-component, sub₁, and a second sub-component, sub₂, as prerequisites of a third sub-component, sub₃, is substantially as follows: sub₃.prereq = sub₁ sub₂,” as recited in claim 5.

Kirk teaches a user interface for retrieving “information from a plurality of information sources and stores information source descriptions in a knowledge base. These information sources descriptions contain various attributes which describe the information source.” (See Kirk, col. 2, lines 11-17). “The knowledge base object editor 616 that is instantiated when adding an information source description to the knowledge base 109 presents a modifiable template of an information source description, expressed as attribute-value pairs.” (See Kirk, col. 29, lines 42-46). Nothing in Kirk however, is directed towards providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI and the prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute-value pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first sub-component, sub₁, and a second sub-component, sub₂, as prerequisites of a third sub-component, sub₃, is substantially as follows: sub₃.prereq = sub₁ sub₂. As such, Kirk does not cure the deficiencies of Miller as discussed above. The combination of Miller and Kirk does not teach the limitations of claim 5.

Nothing in Miller and Kirk, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggest “providing prerequisite information regarding page components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page components of the GUI,” and/or “prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute-value pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first sub-component, sub₁, and a second sub-

component, sub₂, as prerequisites of a third sub-component, sub₃, is substantially as follows:
sub₃.prereq = sub₁ sub₂,” as recited in claim 5. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, dependent claim 15, which includes the limitations of independent claim 10, includes the similar claim limitation of claim 5, which recites “providing prerequisite information regarding page sub-components of a GUI that are prerequisites to other page sub-components of the GUI,” and “prerequisite information is structured as a list of attribute-value pairs, and wherein a syntax for identifying a first sub-component, sub₁, and a second sub-component, sub₂, as prerequisites of a third sub-component, sub₃, is substantially as follows:
sub₃.prereq = sub₁ sub₂.” Thus, for reason similar to those discussed above, claim 15 is patentable over the cited references.

In conclusion, applicants respectfully submit that in view of the arguments and amendments set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome.


If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Michael Mallie at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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Michael J. Mallie
Registration No. 36,591

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300